House Resolution No. 98

Whereas, it is with special pleasure that the members of the Missouri House of Representatives pause to recognize an outstanding individual who is making a difference in the lives of countless youngsters; and

Whereas, Curtis Lamont, an esteemed resident of the Sunflower State, is to be commended for his efforts to keep children safe from motorists by initiating the Starfish bumper sticker program; and

Whereas, currently a bus driver for the Kensington School District in the State of Kansas, Curtis Lamont has witnessed first-hand the danger children face each day as motorists avoid stopped school busses by swerving around them, thus endangering the lives of children; and

Whereas, Curtis has a small black and white sticker in the shape of a starfish on his school bus that symbolizes the difference everyone can make by being patient and waiting for stopped school busses; and

Whereas, the concept of Curtis Lamont's starfish bumper sticker is based on his favorite parable, the "Little Starfish", in which a man walking on the beach comes upon a boy who is picking up starfish and throwing them back into the ocean; and

Whereas, after the boy explains to the man that if the starfish aren't returned to the water they will die, he notices that the beach is littered with thousands of starfish and tells the boy although his efforts are commendable, they are a waste of time and won't make any difference in the end; and

Whereas, as the boy throws another starfish back into the ocean he smiles at the man and says, "it made a difference to that one"; and

Whereas, Curtis Lamont hopes to make a difference in the life of at least one child by encouraging others to participate in the Starfish bumper sticker program:

Now, therefore, be it resolved that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, unanimously join in extending our most hearty congratulations and best wishes to Curtis Lamont in recognition and appreciation of his Starfish bumper sticker program; and

Be it further resolved that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution for Curtis Lamont.

District No. 101

I, Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, First Regular Session, do certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House Resolution No. 98, adopted January 21, 2003.